

What factors constrain the efficient scaling up of cocoa value chain technologies among cocoa farmers under the commercial agriculture development project - - Insights from Cross River State, Nigeria

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Abstract: One of the major constraints to the efficient production of cocoa in Nigeria is the low adoption and usage of cocoa technologies among farmers. In order to improve this trend, the Commercial Agriculture Development Project CADP facilitators, as part of its initiative, disseminated new technologies on cocoa production, processing and marketing to farmers in Cross Rivers State. However, the CADP survey report noted that the productivity of cocoa farmers under the project had not grown sufficiently. Hence, multistage sampling procedure was employed in eliciting responses from 120 cocoa farmers across the State. The production technologies mostly adopted by the respondents was the use of superior improved hybrid seedling, among others processing technologies adopted mostly was breaking of pods with blunt object to reduce damages to cocoa beans through indigenous knowledge, among others and marketing technologies was the use of moisture testing kits called aqua boy to detect excess moisture due to improper drying, among others. Perceived constraints to their use of the technology were insufficient information, difficulty in acquiring land, institutional bottlenecks, etc. The project should develop and strengthen their ICT systems to provide timely and reliable information to farmers to enable them adopt the entire technology package.